

## BOOK NOTICES

**Systematics/Monographs/Floras/Guides**

JAMES B. PHIPPS with ROBERT J. O'KENNON and RON W. LANCE. 2003. **Hawthorns and Medlars**. (ISBN 0-88192-591-8, hbk.). Royal Horticultural Society Plant Collector Guide. Timber Press, Inc. 133 S.W. Second Ave, Suite 450, Portland, OR 97204-3527, U.S.A. (Orders: [www.timberpress.com](http://www.timberpress.com), [mail@timberpress.com](mailto:mail@timberpress.com), 503-227-2878, 1-800-327-5680, 503-227-3070 fax). \$24.95, 180 pp., 75 color photos, 4 b/w photos, 2 tables, 11 drawings, 3 maps, 7 × 9".

Hawthorns (*Crataegus*) and medlars (*Mespilus*) are in the rose family (Rosaceae). This 180 page book is beautifully illustrated and adorned with excellent color photos from a variety of sources. The author brings together in one place a broad mix of information on these two groups of closely related plants. "There are perhaps 140 species of *Crataegus* in the world"; chapter seven of the book covers "69 wild and hybridogenous species and their more commonly available cultivars." Chapters include **1)** Hawthorns and Medlars in Folklore; **2)** Natural History and Conservation, Structure and Reproductive Biology; **3)** Practical Value; **4)** Cultivation; **5)** Breeding and Selection; **6)** Classification and Identification; **7)** Hawthorns; and **8)** Medlars and Intergeneric Hybrids. There are four appendices: **1)** Preparation of Herbarium specimens; **2)** Checklist of *Crataegus* and *Mespilus* Species; **3)** Tabular Key to Hawthorns and Medlars; and **4)** Conversion Charts. A Glossary, Bibliography, and Index complete the book.—Barney Lipscomb, Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan St, Fort Worth, TX 76102-4060, U.S.A., [barney@brit.org](mailto:barney@brit.org).

PAUL L. COMEAU, YASMIN S. COMEAU, and WINSTON JOHNSON. 2003. **The Palm Book of Trinidad and Tobago including the Lesser Antilles**. (ISBN 0-9740870-0-9, pbk.). The International Palm Society, 6729 Peacock Road, Sarasota, FL 34242, U.S.A. (Orders: The Allen Press, P.O. Box 1897, Lawrence, KS 66044-8897, U.S.A., 785-843-1274 [credit card orders only]; online order [www.palms.org](http://www.palms.org)). \$39.95, 108 pp., numerous color photos, distribution maps, 7 1/2 × 10".

*Contents*.—Foreword, Preface, Acknowledgments, **1)** Introduction, **2)** Learning to Identify Native Palms (Identification Key for the Palms), **3)** Palms with Peculiar Distributions, **4)** Palms of the Lesser Antilles, Glossary, Nomenclatural Notes on the Palms, Making Sense of Common Names, Palm Species and Their Synonyms, Known Introduced Palms, Photograph Data, References, and Index.

"Each species account includes, the local name(s), the geographical distribution and density (distribution map shows each species' geographical range), a botanical description, highlighting distinguishing features, comparisons with other similar palms, habitat preference, pollinators and distributors, economic uses and conservation statues." Twenty-two species of palms are recognized, discussed in detail and photographed in their natural habitat.